



Colorado County Clerks Association 2013 Election Reform

Introduction

- **House Bill 13-1303:**
Colorado Voter Access and Maintenance Act (COVAME)
- **Evolution of Elections in Colorado**
- **Elements of the Reform**
- **Communicating the Message**



Colorado County Clerks Association 2013 Election Reform

How Did We Get Here?

- **House Bill 13-1303
Colorado Voter Access and Maintenance Act (COVAME)**
 - Passed in the 2013 Legislative Session, effective for the 2013 Coordinated Election.
- **Hybrid Model of Elections**
 - Mail Ballot Delivery to all eligible voters
 - Voter Centers for Early Voting through Election Day
 - 'Nested' Same Day Registration deadlines (SDR)
 - Live-linked State-wide Poll books for all Voter Service Centers
 - List maintenance reforms
 - Implementation Commission



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How Did We Get Here?

Colorado Election Reform History

1993

- **Coordinated Mail Ballot Elections**
- Non-partisan, County optional

2002

- **HAVA**
- Requirement for Provisional Ballots
- Accessible voting and ADA requirements

2007

- **PERMANENT MAIL VOTER:** 55% Statewide in 2008, over 70% in 2012
- 2008: 68% of ballots cast by mail
- 2012: 71.4% of ballots cast by mail

2006

- **Birth Of Vote Centers**
- Early Voting through Election Day/E-poll books
- Non- Vote Center county provisional increase

2008

- **Statewide Voter Registration (SCORE)**
- Shift in paradigm, Statewide “e-poll book”
- Real-time updates for ballot issuance

2009

- **Mail Ballot Primaries**
- Partisan Elections, County optional

2013

- **COVAME Act**



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Elements of the Legislation

- **Ballots mailed to ALL eligible voters**
 - Voters choose how to return voted ballot
 - Mail
 - Ballot Drop-Boxes
 - Voter Polling & Service Centers
- **Voter Service & Polling Centers**
 - Voters can choose what VSPC to visit
 - No designated polling places
 - Voters can choose early voting or in-person voting options
 - Live-linked for secure registration and balloting



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Elements of the Legislation

Changes to Voter Registration Requirements

Before Reform

- 30 day cut off for new registrations submitted on paper or on-line
- In-person registrations
 - - Emergency registrations
 - - Provisional voters
- If the voter indicated that they attempted to register 30 days prior, signed the affirmation and presented ID they were same day registered and given a regular ballot
- If they had not attempted or were ID deficient, a provisional ballot was issued

After Reform

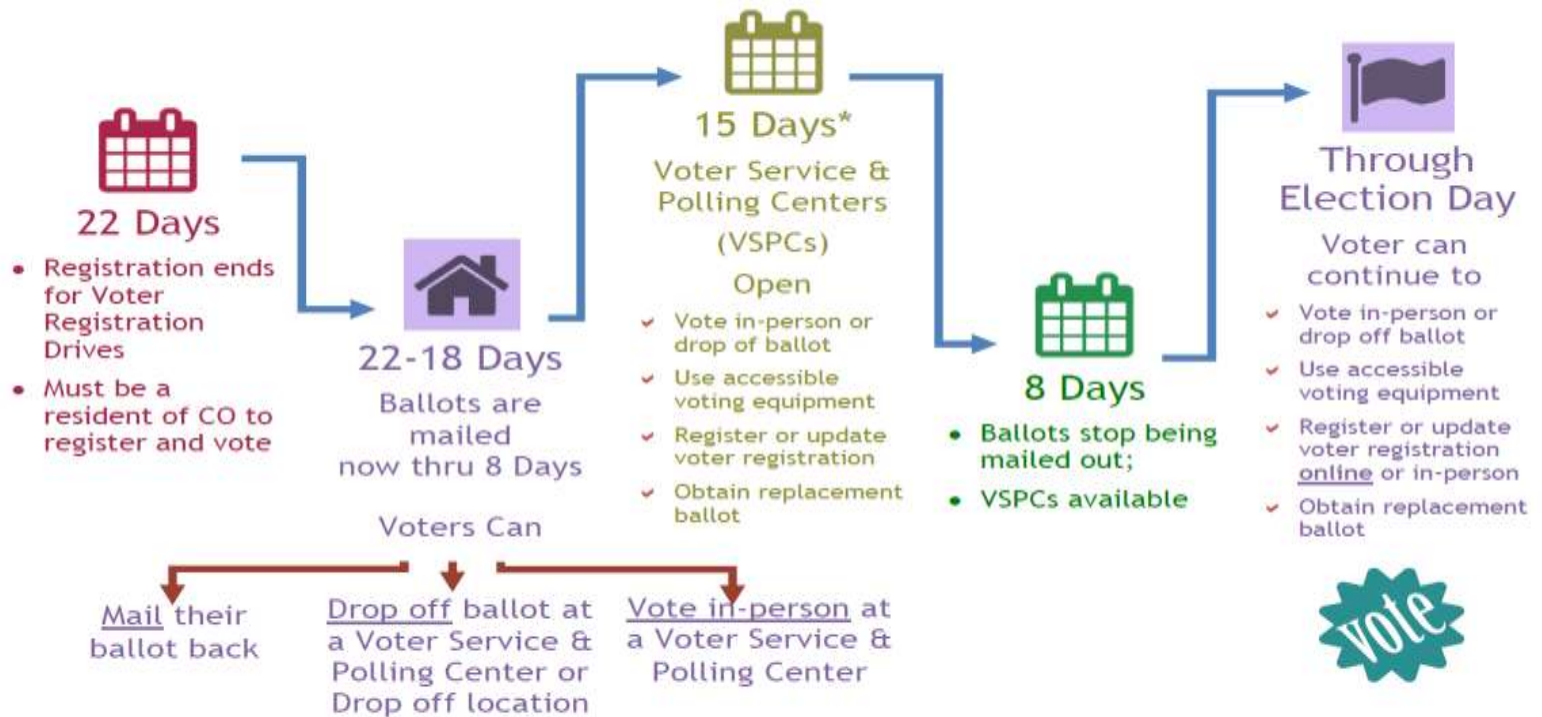
- 22 day cut off for new registrations submitted by VRDs
- 8 day cut off for ballot to be mailed
- In-person registrations through Election Day if they are residents of Colorado at least 22 days prior
 - If they have not been in the state for over 21 days or are ID deficient, the voter is issued a provisional ballot
- (see next diagram)



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Elements of the Legislation

NEW VOTER-FRIENDLY SYSTEM



* VSPCs open 8 days before Election Day in Primary and Coordinated Elections.



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Elements of the Legislation

Changes to List Maintenance

Before Reform

Pre Election Notifications

- Undeliverable Mail
- Confirmation Card mailed out by forwarding mail – inactivation occurred
- Returned undeliverable – Inactivate undeliverable mail
- Returned Card initiated Data Entry – activation
- VIC mailed out confirming change non-forwardable
- Undeliverable Card initiated Confirmation Card mailed by forwardable mail
- Felon and Death downloads monthly

After Reform

- Monthly NCOA files processed – we get most address changes before a piece is undeliverable
- Cleaner voter registration list, ballots are being mailed to updated addresses
- Felon and Death record notifications are downloaded daily during the election cycle
- Cleaner voter registration lists for real time eligibility checks



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Elements of the Legislation

Consistent Elections for Voters

Before Reform

A County could choose - those choices differed by election type

General Elections

- Mail ballot with Vote Centers or
- Mail ballot with Precinct based Polling Place

Primary Elections

- All Mail ballot delivery with Service Centers or
- Mail ballot with Vote Centers or
- Mail ballot with Precinct Polling Places

Coordinated Elections

- All Mail ballot or
- Mail ballot with Vote Centers or
- Mail ballot with Precinct Polling Places

After Reform

Counties have one choice for all elections

All Elections

- All Mail ballot delivery with Voter Service & Polling Centers



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Election Model Success in 2013 Coordinated Election

- Voters cast a record-breaking number of ballots for an odd-year election
- Voter Turnout up 40%
- Almost 400,000 more Coloradans voted in 2013 than in 2011



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Election Model Success in 2014 General Election

Changes to Voter Registration Requirements

- Thousands of Coloradans benefited from changes to Registration law
 - 43,000 New Voter Registrations between Oct.6– Nov. 4 (within 30 days)
 - 5,000 New Voter Registrations on Election Day
 - 93,000 Address Changes between Oct. 6 – Nov. 4 (within 30 days)



■ Address Changes within 30 Days

■ New Voter Registrations within 30 Days

■ Election Day Registrations

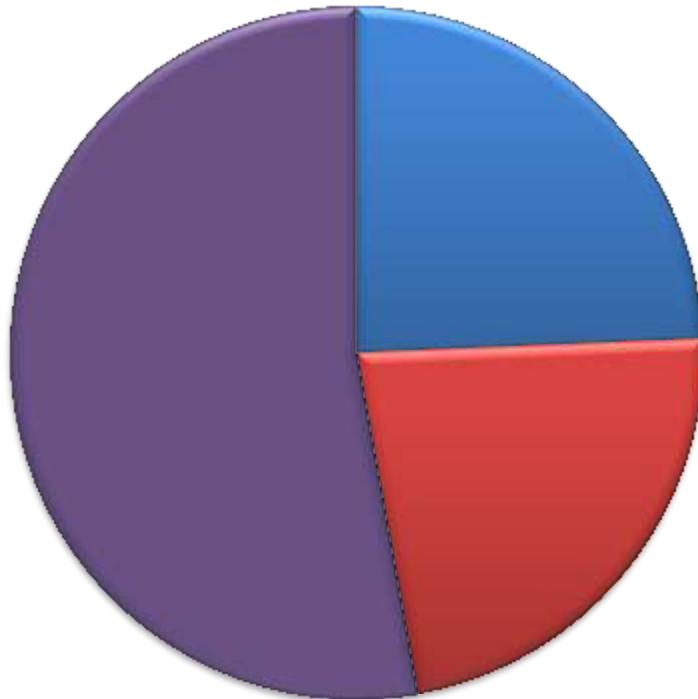


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Election Model Success in 2014 General Election

Changes to Voter Registration Requirements

- 2014 data shows registrations were fairly even among Republicans and Democrats.



■ Democrat (10,179)

■ Republican (9,538)

■ Unaffiliated (22,086)



Colorado County Clerks Association 2013 Election Reform

Communicating the Message

My Colorado VOTE
A project of the Colorado County Clerks Association

Primary Election: **158** days **05** hours **15** minutes **12** seconds

[ANSWERS](#) [LOCATIONS](#) [RESOURCES](#)

Voting in Colorado in 3 easy steps:

- 1** **CONFIRM REGISTRATION**
Make sure you are registered and your address is current. Ballots are not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service.
CONFIRM ▶
- 2** **CHECK YOUR MAILBOX**
During every election, your ballot will arrive in the mail. You have a choice of how to return the ballot after you vote.
CHECK ▶
- 3** **GET PEACE OF MIND**
Make sure we received your ballot - ballot status is available online by entering your registration info at [GoVoteColorado.com](#).
RELAX ▶

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Colorado County Clerks Association 2013 Election Reform

Communicating the Message

✓Voter- Centric

✓Authoritative

✓Reliable

✓Non-Partisan

✓Expert

The screenshot shows the 'My Colorado VOTE' website interface. At the top right, a countdown timer for the 'Primary Election' shows 158 days, 05 hours, 15 minutes, and 12 seconds. Below the timer are navigation links for 'ANSWERS', 'LOCATIONS', and 'RESOURCES'. The main heading reads 'Voting in Colorado in 3 easy steps:'. The three steps are: 1. CONFIRM REGISTRATION (with a checkmark icon), 2. CHECK YOUR MAILBOX (with an envelope icon), and 3. GET PEACE OF MIND (with a smiley face icon). Each step includes a brief description and a corresponding action button: 'CONFIRM', 'CHECK', and 'RELAX'. The footer of the page states 'A project of the Colorado County Clerks Association'.

A project of the Colorado County Clerks Association



Colorado County Clerks Association 2013 Election Reform

Communicating the Message

2

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX

During every election, your ballot will arrive in the mail. You have a choice of how to return the ballot after you vote.

CHECK ▶

- ✓You Decide
- ✓Sign your Ballot – Make it Count!
- ✓Visual Tips for Marking Your Ballot

Drop-Box-Off-Agency', and 'Vote in person at a [Vote-By-Mail-Center](#)'. Below this is a section titled 'Tips For Marking Your Ballot' with a video player showing a person using a ballot marking device. The video player has a play button and a progress bar showing 0:00 / 7:36."/>

Primary Election 150 04 17 18

CAST YOUR BALLOT

ANSWERS LOCATIONS RESOURCES

Colorado's new election law builds in more flexibility for you, the voter. You have three options for voting this year:

- Return your mail ballot in the mail postage requirements vary by county. Postage information will go on the ballot envelope or its instructions. A note says to mark it up. Sometimes, they require it to be on time.
- Drop it off at a [Drop-Box-Off-Agency](#).
- Vote in person at a [Vote-By-Mail-Center](#).

Your Signature is What Makes Your Ballot Count

Don't forget to sign your ballot before you mark it or else it will be marked as a blank ballot. We can't be held for this and will have to file it to solve the problem in person and make sure it's counted.

Tips For Marking Your Ballot

Broomfield mail-in ballot voting process

0:00 / 7:36



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Communicating the Message

ANSWERS:

- ✓ Dates & Deadlines
- ✓ Changing topical information
- ✓ Tips on casting ballots
(Info + Video)
- ✓ Questions about ID requirements?
- ✓ Questions about new residency rules?
- ✓ Other frequently asked questions

The screenshot displays the GoVoteColorado website interface. At the top, a blue header features the 'GoVoteColorado' logo on the left and a primary election countdown timer on the right, showing 158 days, 04 hours, 01 minute, and 48 seconds. Below the timer are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. A navigation bar contains three tabs: 'ANSWERS' (highlighted in yellow), 'LOCATIONS', and 'RESOURCES'. A dropdown menu is open under 'ANSWERS', listing: 'DATES AND DEADLINES', '2014 CAUCUS', 'CAST YOUR BALLOT', 'ID REQUIREMENTS', 'RESIDENCY', and 'FAQ'. The main content area is titled 'in Colorado in 3 easy steps' and is divided into three columns. The first column is 'REGISTRATION', the second is 'CHECK YOUR MAIL' (with a yellow circle containing the number '2' and an envelope icon), and the third is 'PEACE OF MIND'. Each column has a corresponding button: 'RM' (red), 'CHECK' (yellow), and 'RELAX' (green).



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Communicating the Message

RESOURCES:

✓ Election Integrity

- Protections against voting blank ballots
- Public Testing & Canvass Board
- Voter Privacy

✓ County Clerk Contact Information

✓ GoVoteColorado.com

The screenshot displays the GoVoteColorado.com website interface. At the top, a dark blue banner features a countdown timer for a "Primary Election" with 158 days, 03 hours, 46 minutes, and 26 seconds remaining. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube are visible to the right of the timer. Below the banner, a navigation menu includes "ANSWERS", "LOCATIONS", and "RESOURCES". The "RESOURCES" menu is open, showing options for "ELECTION INTEGRITY", "COUNTY CLERKS", and "GOVOTECOLORADO.COM". The main content area features a "3 easy steps:" heading and two prominent blue cards. The first card, titled "CHECK YOUR MAILBOX", includes an envelope icon and text stating "every election, your ballot will arrive mail. You have a choice of how to". The second card, titled "GET PEACE OF MIND", includes a green circle with the number "3" and text stating "Make sure we received your ballot - ballot status is available online by entering your".



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Communicating the Message

LOCATIONS:

- ✓ Interactive Map
- ✓ Find location based on need (drop-off, VSPC)
- ✓ Hours, Address, etc

Primary Election: 158 days, 03 hours, 38 minutes, 10 seconds

ANSWERS LOCATIONS RESOURCES

Use this form to search for 2013 locations

Select a County

Click here

Select a Location Type

Click here

Your search results will display below the

ARVADA MOTOR VEHICLE

Type: Drop Off, Voter Service Center

Address: 6510 Wadsworth Blvd Arvada, CO, 80011

County: Jefferson

Hours: M-F 7:30-5:3-; 11/2 10-2; 11/5 7-7

LITTLETON MOTOR VEHICLE

Type: Drop Off, Voter Service Center

Address: 11139 Bradford Rd Littleton, CO, 80127

County: Jefferson

Hours: M-F 7:30-5:3-; 11/2 10-2; 11/5 7-7

LAKWOOD MOTOR VEHICLE

Use this form to search for 2013 locations

Select a County

Click here

Select a Location Type

Click here

County Clerk

Drop Off

Voter Service Center

Your search results will display below the map.

ARVADA MOTOR VEHICLE

Type: Drop Off, Voter Service Center

Address: 6510 Wadsworth Blvd Arvada, CO, 80011

County: Jefferson

Hours: M-F 7:30-5:3-; 11/2 10-2; 11/5 7-7

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RELAX ▶

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Questions?

- Questions?

- Contact Information
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